



Dave
Heineman

STATE OF NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF ROADS

Monty W. Fredrickson, P.E., Director – State Engineer

1500 Highway 2 • PO Box 94759 • Lincoln NE 68509-4759

Phone (402) 471-4567 • FAX (402) 479-4325 • www.transportation.nebraska.gov

August 2, 2012

Ms. Amy A. Miller
Attorney at Law
ACLU Nebraska
941 "O" Street, Suite 706
Lincoln, NE 68508

Re: Public Records Request

Dear Ms. Miller:

This correspondence is to confirm your request for public records as provided for by the Nebraska Public Records Act (Act), Neb. Rev. Stat. §84-712, *et. seq.*, and as set out in your letter dated July 30, 2012. Your request included six separate requests related to automatic license plate readers (ALPR). We have located public records responsive to request number two.

Enclosed are copies of records in response to your request identified as Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) public records concerning grant funding for ALPR equipment managed by NDOR as follows:

Seven pages of documents related to funding for two ALPRs for the Nebraska State Patrol from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration as requested by the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety (NOHS). NOHS was transferred from the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles and is now part of the NDOR.

NDOR personnel have made a good faith effort to gather and produce all records that are responsive to this request; however, due to the voluminous nature of the documents maintained by NDOR, it is impossible to ensure that each and every document you have requested has been produced. Therefore, please let me know if the Nebraska Department of Roads can be of any further assistance to you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

M. J. Oie
Communication Division Manager

enc.



RECEIVED

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Dave Heineman
Governor

NE DEPT MOTOR VEHICLES
HIGHWAY SAFETY

NEBRASKA STATE PATROL
Colonel Bryan J. Tuma
Superintendent
P.O. Box 94907
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4907
Phone: (402) 471-4545

October 8, 2007

Fred Zwonechek
Nebraska Office of Highway Safety
Department of Motor Vehicles
P.O. Box 94612
Lincoln, NE 68509-4612

Dear Mr. Zwonechek:

The Nebraska State Patrol is respectfully requesting your assistance in obtaining approval from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to purchase two license plate readers with funding provided through the Section 163 award / .08 project. The readers cost approximately \$25,000 each.

License plate readers are infrared cameras which are installed in a patrol car. The reader has the capability of reading more than 800 license plates in an hour. They instantly transmit information to a laptop computer inside the car, notifying the officer whenever there is a match in one of the down loaded databases.

The infrared reader instantly scans multiple lanes of highway traffic alerting officers to law violations. The detection of stolen vehicles, wanted persons, and suspended rivers are a sample of how these devices could dramatically increase highway safety with their deployment.

Please contact Marisue Riesenbergs at 479-4017 if you need additional information on this request. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Bryan Tuma, Colonel
Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety



AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Printed with soy ink on recycled paper





Dave Heineman
Governor

STATE OF NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
Beverly Neth
Director

OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY
P.O. Box 94612
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4612
Phone: (402) 471-2515
Fax: 402-471-3865
www.dmv.state.ne.us/highwaysafety

October 11, 2007

Romell Cooks
Regional Administrator
NHTSA Central Region
901 Locust St.
Kansas City, MO 64106

Re: Electronic Vehicle License Plate Camera Readers

Dear Ms Cooks,

We have received a request from the Nebraska State Patrol asking for approval to purchase two Vehicle License Plate Camera Readers utilizing available Section 163 funding.

Because the Reader units cost approximately \$25,000 each, we are requesting NHTSA authorization to purchase this equipment. License plate readers are infrared cameras which are installed in patrol units and have the capability of reading more than 800 license plates per hour. These units instantly transmit information to a laptop computer inside the patrol vehicle that alerts the officer whenever a match of a suspect vehicle is identified.

The camera has the capability of scanning multiple lanes of traffic for previously identified violators. Identification of: traffic violation suspect vehicles; vehicles owned by suspended/revoked drivers; and stolen vehicles are just a few of the traffic safety benefits that are expected with the utilization of this technology.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

Fred E Zwonechek, Administrator
Nebraska Office of Highway Safety

fez/ls



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway Traffic
Safety Administration
Region VII – IA, KS, MO, NE
901 Locust – Room 466
Kansas City, MO 64106-2331
816-329-3900 (PH)
816-329-3910 (FX)

Memorandum **RECEIVED**

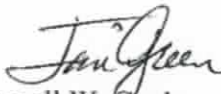


OCT 22 2007

NE DEPT MOTOR VEHICLES
HIGHWAY SAFETY

Subject: Request for Approval, Vehicle License
Plate Camera Reader

Date: October 18, 2007

From: 
Romell W. Cooks

To: Fred E. Zwonechek

We have reviewed your request to provide funds toward the purchase of a patrol vehicle that exceeds the \$5,000 limit. Your request is approved as submitted, with the understanding that this purchase will be part of a traffic safety program.

Should you have further questions, contact Jim Green or myself.

From: "Fred Zwonechek" <Fred.Zwonechek@dmv.ne.gov>
mriesenberg@nsp.state.ne.us
Date: 10/22/2007 11:15 AM
Subject: Fwd: Request to purchase License Plate Readers

Resending with corrected address.... FZ

Fred E Zwonechek
Administrator
Nebraska Office of Highway Safety
P.O. Box 94612
Lincoln, NE 68509

-----Original Message-----

From: "Fred Zwonechek" <Fred.Zwonechek@dmv.ne.gov>
To: mreisenberg@nsp.state.ne.us
Cc: "Linda Kearns" <Linda.Kearns@dmv.ne.gov>,
Date: Mon, 22 Oct 2007 11:10:48 -0500
Subject: Request to purchase License Plate Readers

Marisue,

For your information, we submitted a request to the NHTSA Regional Office for the Nebraska State Patrol to utilize Section 163 funding to purchase License Plate Reader Cameras for patrol units and were granted approval to purchase this equipment. Please be advised that you may proceed with the process to order and purchase these units.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Fred Z

Fred E Zwonechek
Administrator
Nebraska Office of Highway Safety
P.O. Box 94612
Lincoln, NE 68509

Nebraska State Patrol
License Plate Reader Evaluation
January 2009

Two license plate readers were purchased from ELSAG North America .08 funding in July of 2008. These readers were field deployed and tested. The following narratives were provided by the respective troop areas. The vendor provided instruction on the device during an annual in-service training and instructions were made available on the agency's enterprise network.

The general consensus is that the license plate reader is a valuable tool and worth the investment. This statement comes with the condition that data is frequently uploaded.

Device 1

Troop A - Omaha

Between October 29 and November 29, 2008 the device was used to read 6,961 plates. A total of 14 hits were made and ultimately rejected.

Initially the information generated was not conforming to the device. It took several attempts to the manufacturer to determine they had sent an incorrect converter.

Staff training should be included.

The size of the reader heads are large and draw attention. Consideration to a smaller reader head should be given. The device was used at several metro area traffic selectives and was found to be helpful. It was also used during a gang funeral and worked very well at capturing the desired data. It was a notable improvement over video recording. The device is limited to the data that is available. The lack of data available (slow updates and/or not entered) limits its usefulness. The manufacturer stats that it is capable of recognizing suspected drivers, warrants, etc if that data is available.

Device 2

This unit has been transferred to different troop areas. As of this writing, it has just been delivered to Troop D – North Platte. This troop area and the Patrol's IT division are working on obtaining daily updates on pertinent database.

HQ Troop - Lincoln

Zero hits

An instruction sheet should accompany the unit.

System reads plates well in the metro area. Since you have to be fairly close (approx how far??) to read a plate, it is not as efficient on the interstate.

Troop B - Norfolk

Approximately 400 plates read.

There was a notable problem with the device attempting to read signs rather than plates.

Reading plates of on-coming traffic was difficult. During the day, approximately 55% of the plates were read. At night, a lower percentage was readable.

Troop D – North Platte

Unit has just been delivered.



Dave Heineman
Governor

STATE OF NEBRASKA

NEBRASKA STATE PATROL
Colonel Bryan J. Tuma
Superintendent
P.O. Box 94907
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4907
Phone: (402) 471-4545

October 9, 2008

Linda Kearns
Nebraska Office of Highway Safety
Department of Motor Vehicles
P.O. Box 94612
Lincoln, NE 68509

RECEIVED

OCT 09 2008

NE DEPT MOTOR VEHICLES
HIGHWAY SAFETY

Dear Linda,

A summary report of the acquisitions and activities associated with the Section 163 funds occurring between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2008 is provided.

LIQUOR ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

RETURNED (3) Covert Camera Hats - \$865

The hats were purchased in FY07. However, the equipment was unsatisfactory and returned.

PUBLIC SAFETY

(2) License Plate Readers - \$40,200

Two license plate readers were purchased during this fiscal year and are currently being tested. The reader has the capability of reading more than 800 license plates in an hour. They instantly transmit information to a laptop computer inside the car, notifying the officer whenever there is a match in one of the down loaded databases.

The infrared reader instantly scans multiple lanes of highway traffic alerting officers to law violations. The detection of stolen vehicles, wanted persons, and suspended rivers are a sample of how these devices could dramatically increase highway safety with their deployment.

(526) Reflective Safety Vests - \$7,722

Nebraska State Patrol officers received reflective safety vests to wear while engaging in primarily traffic related duties to increase their visibility.

Overtime - \$1,200

Approximately 25 overtime hours were dedicated toward staffing a booth at the International Auto Show in Omaha, January 27 – 27, 2008. The daily attendance was estimated at 20,000 attendees.



AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Printed with soy ink on recycled paper

